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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)
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Vantresa Stickler et al.	) Group Art Unit: 3629
	)
Application No.: 10/630,589	) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
	)
Filed: July 29, 2003	) Confirmation No.: 1662
	)
For: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR	)
MID-STREAM POSTAGE	)
ADJUSTMENT	)

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REQUEST FOR CORRECTED PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATION
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.221(b)

On June 24, 2004, the Office published the above-identified Application No.

10/630,589 as Publication No. US-2004/0122779-A1. The published application

contains mistakes that are the fault of the Office and which may be material. Attached

hereto is a copy of each relevant page of the originally filed application and a marked-up

copy of the corresponding page of the published application identifying the mistakes

and corrections.

A mistake is material when it affects the public's ability to determine the scope of

the provisional rights that an applicant may seek to enforce upon issuance of a patent.

See 37 C.F.R. § 1.221(b). Each of the mistakes listed below may affect the public's

ability to determine the scope of provisional rights, as identified.

The mistakes, which are indicated in red ink on the relevant pages of the marked-up copy of the published application attached hereto, are as follows:

1. On page 7, claim 49, line 5, the published application recites "customer-determined attributes of the _____", however the original application recites "customer-determined attributes of the parcel;". The error is that the published application omits "parcel;". This mistake, therefore, results in an incomplete claim, wherein the subject possessing the "customer-determined attributes" is unknown. This mistake may be material as it may affect the public's ability to determine the scope of the provisional rights. For at least this reason, this mistake should be corrected.

2. On page 7, claim 60, line 2, the published application recites only "further" of the transitional phrase, however the original application recites "further comprises:". The error is that the published application omits "comprises:". This mistake, therefore, results in an incomplete claim and, more particularly, one that does not indicate whether it is open or closed in its composition. This mistake may be material as it may affect the public's ability to determine the scope of provisional rights. For at least this reason, this mistake should be corrected.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants request that the Office correct the mistakes identified above for which the Office is at fault in the published application, and forward to Applicants a copy of the corrected published application or at least a notification of the occurrence or predicted occurrence of the corrected publication once it has been corrected.

Applicants believe that no Petition or fee is due in connection with this Request as

the mistakes identified herein are the fault of the Patent Office. However, if any Petition

or fee is due, please grant the Petition and charge the fee to our Deposit Account No.

06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: _____
   Robert E. Converse, Jr.
   Reg. No. 27,432

Date: July 30, 2004

Attachments: pages 28-31 of U.S. Pat. App. 10/630,589 as filed on July 29, 2003
page 7 of Publication No. US-2004/0122779-A1

Service Priority Mail package, and a United States Postal Service Express Mail Package.

47. The method of claim 33 wherein transmitting a postage payment adjustment amount comprises transmitting data by at least one of regular mail, e-mail, facsimile, internet, and an interactive voice response system.

48. A method for correcting a postage value, comprising:

storing a first postage value derived from customer-determined attributes of a parcel;

receiving payment for the first postage value;

receiving the parcel at a delivery system operator;

determining attributes of the parcel by the delivery system operator to generate a second postage value;

comparing the first and second postage values; and

if the first postage value is greater then the second postage value, providing a credit to the customer; and

if the second postage value is less then the first postage value, generating a charge to the customer.

49. A system for receiving payment for postage by a delivery service operator from a customer, comprising:

a first component to receive from the customer mailing information for a parcel, the mailing information comprising customer-determined attributes of the parcel;

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a second component to calculate a first postage value based on the customer-determined attributes;

a third component to transmit data to the customer to permit printing by the customer of a mailing label for the parcel, the mailing label including an indication of the first postage value;

a fourth component to charge a customer account for the first postage value;

a fifth component to determine attributes of the parcel by the delivery system operator;

a sixth component to calculate a second postage value for the parcel based on the operator-determined attributes; and

a seventh component to transmit a postage payment adjustment amount to the customer account based on a comparison between the first and second postage values.

50. The system of claim 49 wherein the first component is a network interface component to receive mailing information from the customer over a network.

51. The system of claim 50 wherein the first component is a network interface component to receive mailing information by the delivery system operator over the Internet.

52. The system of claim 49 wherein the customer-determined attributes include at least one of height, length, weight, thickness, and weight of the parcel.

53.   The system of claim 52 wherein the mailing information comprises at least one of return address information, destination address information, and payment information.

54.   The system of claim 49 wherein the mailing information comprises at least one of return address information, destination address information, and payment information.

55.   The system of claim 49 further comprising an eighth component to store the mailing information.

56.   The system of claim 49 wherein the customer account is a credit card account.

57.   The system of claim 49 wherein the mailing label further comprises a unique identification code for the parcel.

58.   The system of claim 49 wherein the fifth component comprises at least one of a weight component to weigh the parcel, a capture component to capture an image of the parcel, and a sensing component to sense physical dimensions of the parcel.

59.   The system of claim 49 wherein the seventh component further comprises:

a requesting component to request additional payment when the second postage value is greater then the first postage value.

60.   The system of claim 49 wherein the seventh component further comprises:

a generating component to generate a credit when the second postage value is less then the first postage value.

61.   The system of claim 49 wherein the indication of the first postage value is at least one of a bar code, an image indicating an account from which delivery payment has been made, and a postage stamp.

62.   The system of claim 49 wherein the parcel is at least one of the following: a mailpiece, a package, an oversized package, a United States Postal Service Priority Mail package, and a United States Postal Service Express Mail Package.

63.   The system of claim 49 wherein the seventh component comprises a transmitting component to transmit data by at least one of regular mail, e-mail, facsimile, internet, and an interactive voice response system.

64.   A system for correcting a postage value, comprising:

a first component to store a first postage value derived from customer-determined attributes of a parcel;

a second component to receive payment for the first postage value;

a third component to receive the parcel at a delivery-system operator;

a fourth component to determine attributes of the parcel by the delivery system operator to generate a second postage value;

a fifth component to compare the first and second postage values; and

if the first postage value is greater then the second postage value, providing a credit to the customer; and

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39. The method of claim 33 further comprising storing the mailing information.

40. The method of claim 33 wherein the customer account is a credit card account.

41. The method of claim 33 wherein the mailing label further comprises a unique identification code for the parcel.

42. The method of claim 33 wherein obtaining operator-determined attributes comprises at least one of weighing the parcel, capturing an image of the parcel, and sensing physical dimensions of the parcel.

43. The method of claim 33 wherein adjusting the payment further comprises:

requesting additional payment when the second postage value is greater then the first postage value.

44. The method of claim 33 wherein adjusting the payment further comprises:

generating a credit when the second postage value is less then the first postage value.

45. The method of claim 33 wherein the indication of the first postage value is at least one of a bar code, an image indicating an account from which delivery payment has been made, and a postage stamp.

46. The method of claim 33 wherein the parcel is at least one of the following: a mailpiece, a package, an oversized package, a United States Postal Service Priority Mail package, and a United States Postal Service Express Mail Package.

47. The method of claim 33 wherein transmitting a postage payment adjustment amount comprises transmitting data by at least one of regular mail, e-mail, facsimile, internet, and an interactive voice response system.

48. A method for correcting a postage value, comprising:

storing a first postage value derived from customer-determined attributes of a parcel;

receiving payment for the first postage value;

receiving the parcel at a delivery system operator;

determining attributes of the parcel by the delivery system operator to generate a second postage value;

comparing the first and second postage values; and

if the first postage value is greater then the second postage value, providing a credit to the customer; and

if the second postage value is less then the first postage value, generating a charge to the customer.

49. A system for receiving payment for postage by a delivery service operator from a customer, comprising:

a first component to receive from the customer mailing information for a parcel, the mailing information comprising customer-determined attributes of the *parcel*;

a second component to calculate a first postage value based on the customer-determined attributes;

a third component to transmit data to the customer to permit printing by the customer of a mailing label for the parcel, the mailing label including an indication of the first postage value;

a fourth component to charge a customer account for the first postage value;

a fifth component to determine attributes of the parcel by the delivery system operator;

a sixth component to calculate a second postage value for the parcel based on the operator-determined attributes; and

a seventh component to transmit a postage payment adjustment amount to the customer account based on a comparison between the first and second postage values.

50. The system of claim 49 wherein the first component is a network interface component to receive mailing information from the customer over a network.

51. The system of claim 50 wherein the first component is a network interface component to receive mailing information by the delivery system operator over the Internet.

52. The system of claim 49 wherein the customer-determined attributes include at least one of height, length, weight, thickness, and weight of the parcel.

53. The system of claim 52 wherein the mailing information comprises at least one of return address information, destination address information, and payment information.

54. The system of claim 49 wherein the mailing information comprises at least one of return address information, destination address information, and payment information.

55. The system of claim 49 further comprising an eighth component to store the mailing information.

56. The system of claim 49 wherein the customer account is a credit card account.

57. The system of claim 49 wherein the mailing label further comprises a unique identification code for the parcel.

58. The system of claim 49 wherein the fifth component comprises at least one of a weight component to weigh the parcel, a capture component to capture an image of the parcel, and a sensing component to sense physical dimensions of the parcel.

59. The system of claim 49 wherein the seventh component further comprises:

a requesting component to request additional payment when the second postage value is greater then the first postage value.

60. The system of claim 49 wherein the seventh component further *comprises*:

a generating component to generate a credit when the second postage value is less then the first postage value.

61. The system of claim 49 wherein the indication of the first postage value is at least one of a bar code, an image indicating an account from which delivery payment has been made, and a postage stamp.

62. The system of claim 49 wherein the parcel is at least one of the following: a mailpiece, a package, an oversized package, a United States Postal Service Priority Mail package, and a United States Postal Service Express Mail Package.

63. The system of claim 49 wherein the seventh component comprises a transmitting component to transmit data by at least one of regular mail, e-mail, facsimile, internet, and an interactive voice response system.

64. A system for correcting a postage value, comprising:

a first component to store a first postage value derived from customer-determined attributes of a parcel;